



Press Release



General William Forrester selected USACRC commander

4/21/2006 - **FORT RUCKER, Ala.** – Brig. Gen. William H. Forrester Jr., has been selected as the next commanding general of the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center.

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker made the announcement April 20, that Forrester will assume command from Brig. Gen. Joseph A. Smith during a change of command ceremony here Aug. 25.

In addition to his role as commanding general of USACRC, BG Forrester will also serve as the Director of Army Safety.

Currently, Forrester is the Assistant Division Commander (Support), 2d Infantry Division, Eighth U.S. Army, Korea. Prior to this assignment, the general served as the Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army Aviation Warfighting Center and Fort Rucker from July 2003 until June 2005. From May 2001 to June 2003, he commanded the 159th Aviation Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division to include combat operations in Iraq.

The USACRC is responsible for improving combat readiness and preserving combat power. As a field operating agency of the Office of the Chief of Staff, Army, USACRC is the knowledge center for all Army losses and the focal point for analyzing accident, serious incident and combat loss reports.

“Our Army is truly developing an institution-wide strategy, and the CRC is at the center of gravity at a critical time,” said Smith, who will retire after 32 years of service. “The work

everyone at the CRC has completed over the last few years has directly impacted the readiness of our Army and brought the discussion of safety and Composite Risk Management (CRM) to the forefront of commanders in the field.”

The Combat Readiness Center conducts all source loss data collection, fusion and analysis, and disseminates actionable force protection information Army-wide, identifying and training on lessons learned and tactics, techniques and procedures to mitigate and prevent future losses. It then uses the information and feedback from the field in developing leadership, training and education tools and programs. This provides all levels of the Army team – Soldiers, civilians and supporting contractors – the right safety tools and knowledge to successfully accomplish the mission while reducing Army loss.

“CRM is developing irreversible momentum across the Army. As Brigadier General Forrester assumes command and joins the USACRC mission, I’m confident the center will work hard to continue the Army’s transformation and maintain the great energy that has developed across our formations to reduce loss and preserve human capital.” said Smith.